

# **Medicaid Information Bulletin**

April 2001



This bulletin includes an attachment for Home Health Agencies.

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This bulletin is available in editions for people with disabilities.

Call Medicaid Information: 538-6155 or toll free 1-800-662-9651.

## 01 - 54 Home Health Services: Rural Area Travel Enhancement, CORRECTION

Bulletin 01 - 42, Home Health Services: Rural Area Home Health Travel Enhancement, contained an error. The enhancement is available only in rural counties where round-trip travel distances from the care giver's base of operations are in excess of **50** miles, not 25 miles as stated in the original bulletin. Please disregard bulletin 01 - 42 and discard page 16-17 that was attached. The correct policy is stated below; the correct page 16-17 is attached.

#### **Rural Area Travel Enhancement**

Effective May 1, 2001, Medicaid will provide enhancements to the home health reimbursement rate when travel distances to provide services are extensive. The enhancement is available only in rural counties where round-trip travel distances from the care giver's base of operations are in excess of 50 miles. Rural counties are defined as counties other than Weber, Davis, Salt Lake, and Utah counties. For round trip travel of 50 miles or more, the home health fee schedule will be multiplied by 1.75 to calculate the payment rate for applicable service codes.

To receive the rural home health travel enhancement, home health agencies must file the claim using the applicable, approved service code listed in Chapter 6 with a modifier "22". For example, code Y0103 with modifier "22" (Y0103 22).

# **Home Health Manual Updated**

SECTION 2 of the <u>Utah Medicaid Provider Manual for Home Health Services</u> has been updated to include the information on enhancements to the home health reimbursement rate. The information is added as a new chapter 4 - 6, Rural Area Home Health Travel Enhancement. The subsequent chapter is renumbered as 4 - 7, Telehealth Skilled Nurse Pilot Project for Patients in Rural Areas. Providers will find attached pages 16-17 to update their manual.

World Wide Web: www.health.state.ut.us/medicaid

#### **Medicaid Information**

- Salt Lake City area, call 538-6155.
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